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**HOUSING-HEALTH RELATIONSHIPS:  
AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Charles W. Barr, Associate Director, School of Urban Planning and  
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## HOUSING - HEALTH RELATIONSHIPS

## An Annotated Bibliography

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## CONTENTS

|                               | Numbers   |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| PREFACE                       |           |
| BIBLIOGRAPHIES . . . . .      | 1 - . 5   |
| GENERAL WORKS . . . . .       | 6 - 37    |
| PATHOLOGICAL HEALTH . . . . . | 38 - 52   |
| MENTAL HEALTH . . . . .       | 53 - 88   |
| DESIGN - GENERAL . . . . .    | 89 - 105  |
| DESIGN - PRIVACY . . . . .    | 106 - 108 |
| DESIGN - SPACE . . . . .      | 109 - 116 |
| DESIGN - LIGHT . . . . .      | 117 - 119 |
| DESIGN - NOISE . . . . .      | 120 - 121 |
| DESIGN - COLOR . . . . .      | 122 - 126 |
| CLIMATE - GENERAL. . . . .    | 127 - 136 |
| CLIMATE - SUN . . . . .       | 137 - 141 |
| RESEARCH METHODS . . . . .    | 142 - 144 |

## PREFACE

A growing consciousness of the individual is being expressed today in many governmental programs and developments. The physical design of the city, community and home are being restudied in terms of people: their needs and desires. With the growth of health programs, social medical services, and interest in personal health it is desirable to consider the home as an integral unit of these broader studies.

Health, environment, and pollution have become very common words in today's literature. Each of those words are used within a variety of contexts and professional concepts. For this bibliography the emphasis is upon the dwelling and its immediate surroundings as a home environment. Health is considered to be the personal well-being of the residents.

Historically, the emphasis of housing-health relationships were subjectively and empirically derived. Major interests were sanitary facilities and cleanliness as preventatives of disease; light and ventilation relationships to diseases such as tuberculosis; building materials and their relationship to germ viability. These interests were incorporated into building and housing codes along with safety factors. These are of particular interest today in urbanizing nations. Highly urbanized countries cannot neglect these basic relationships, but are concerned with



additional factors which are more complex.

Increased urbanization has given rise to larger cities with greater densities of population, increased noise, a struggle for personal privacy and space, and a more artificial home environment. These factors have resulted in greater attention being given to the mental health of persons combating this urban environment. With the mobility of most citizens today, it is difficult to study the influences of all daily contacts to the human body and sensibilities, but the home does act as a base for a large portion of the individual's day, as well as, an indicator to various other cultural criteria. Therefore, the home should be a proper subject for study in terms of individual health.

This bibliography attempts to group the references, but there will be, of necessity, some overlapping of subject interests within many articles. Only English language references are given. European literature includes much more specific data on home-disease relationships than American sources. Russian, German and Czechoslovakian journals are particularly good for studies of detailed relationships.

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